Amendment and Response
Applicant: William K. Meade II
Serial No.: 09/982,247
Filed: October 16, 2001
Docket No.: 10004224-1
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MOBILE COMPUTING DEVICE TO CONTROL APPLIANCES

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 27.

Please amend claims 1, as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an appliance comprising:

establishing a wireless communication link between the appliance and a mobile computing device; and

controlling the appliance via~~with~~ the mobile computing device including:

supplying a first content from the mobile computing device to ~~at least one of selectively determining an available content for~~ the appliance;

selecting for performance by the appliance at least one content from a plurality of content available ~~the content used by~~ via the appliance, the plurality of content including the first content; and

applying ~~an~~ a user preference to the appliance.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein in controlling the appliance, supplying the first content ~~determining the available content~~ comprises:

supplying the first content~~to the appliance~~ as at least one of a ~~copy of at least one of~~ a movie file, a TV program file, an audio song file, and an audio program file~~, and an audio file~~.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein in controlling the appliance, applying the user preference ~~further~~ comprises:

supplying from the mobile computing device to the appliance the user preference including at least one of an audio station selection list, an audio program selection list, a TV program selection list, an auto-activation selection list, a volume selection, and an auto-printing selection list.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of content ~~selecting the content used by the appliance further~~ comprises:

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~~selecting~~ at least one of

an audio station from an audio station list, an audio song <u>supplied as the first</u> <u>content</u> from a memory of the mobile computing device, a TV program <u>supplied as</u> <u>the first content</u> from a memory of the mobile computing device, and a TV station on a video device.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 <u>wherein the appliance comprises a first</u> <u>appliance</u> and <u>the method</u> further <u>comprises</u> ~~comprising~~:

providing a plurality of appliances <u>including</u>~~with~~ the <u>first</u> appliance ~~being one of the~~ ~~plurality of appliances~~; and

controlling the <u>plurality of</u> appliances with the mobile computing device including determining which <u>of the respective</u> appliances to control.

6.   (Original) A method of controlling an appliance comprising:

wirelessly exchanging user preference information between a mobile computing device and an appliance;<u> and</u>

operating the appliance with the mobile computing device based on the user preference information.

7.   (Original) A method of controlling an appliance comprising:

supplying <u>a first</u> content to the appliance <u>from</u> ~~with~~ a mobile computing device; and

selecting<u>, via the mobile computing device, the first</u> content <u>from a plurality of</u> <u>content</u> in the appliance <u>to perform the first content with the appliance</u> ~~with the mobile~~ ~~computing device~~.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting content for an appliance comprising:

providing a mobile computing device <u>comprising</u>~~with at least one of~~ an audio monitor including audio-based content selections, a video monitor including video-based content selections, a data monitor including data-based content selections, a communication monitor including telecommunication selections, and an internet monitor including internet selections; and

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selecting content to be performed at the appliance via~~with~~ the mobile computing device from at least one of the audio monitor, the video monitor, the data monitor, the communication monitor, and the internet monitor.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein and further comprising at least one of:

providing the audio monitor to include at least one of an audio station selection list, an audio song selection list, an audio program selection list, and an audio file selection list;

providing the video monitor to include at least one of a television network station selection list, a television program selection list, a program recorder with a play selection list and a program list;

providing the data monitor to include at least one of a document selection list, an editor activator, a virtual disc drive selector, and a document scanner receiver selector;

providing the communications monitor to include at least one of a phone book selection, a call list selection, an address book selection, a land/cell switcher selection, a fax selection; and

providing the internet monitor to include at least one of a browser favorites selection list and a cookies selection list.

10.   (Original) A method of controlling household appliances comprising:

wirelessly establishing communication between a mobile computing device and a household appliance including at least one of a thermostat, a beverage maker, an alarm, and a lighting device; and

selectively activating and controlling the household appliances with the mobile computing device.

11.   (Original) A method of controlling appliances comprising:

establishing wireless communication between a mobile computing device and an appliance;

automatically applying an user preference of the mobile computing device to the appliance;

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automatically requesting the appliance to perform a task using a preferred content that is at least one of a content available through the appliance and a content supplied from the mobile computing device to the appliance; and

observing the appliance perform the requested task using the applied user preferences.

12. (Original) An appliance control system comprising

a mobile computing device configured for controlling an appliance including selectively determining an available content for the appliance, selecting the content used by the appliance, and applying an a user preference to the appliance.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the mobile computing device comprises:

a memory including at least one of an internal disc drive and, a silicon based storage device optionally including an atomic resolution storage device.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 and further comprising:

a network communication link; and

a web site including an application service provider configured to supply content suitable for performing a task on the appliance and configured to store the content on the mobile computing device via wireless exchange through the network communication link.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the mobile computing device comprises at least one of a personal digital assistant, a mobile phone, a portable audio file player, and a handheld computer.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the appliance for which the mobile computing device is configured to control comprises at least one of a video device, an audio device, a mobile phone, a multifunction printer, a web site, a thermostat, an alarm clock, a beverage maker, and a lighting unit.

17. (Original) An appliance control system comprising:

a mobile computing device including:

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a controller;

a memory configured for storing a first content and user preferences;

a wireless communicator configured for wireless communication with an appliance;

a display with a user interface; and

an appliance content selector configured for selecting content to be performed by an appliance.

18. (Original) The appliance control system of claim 17 and further comprising:
at least one of:

an audio device configured for wireless communication with the mobile computing device and configured for operative control by the mobile computing device, the audio device including:

a receiver;

a station selector;

a song search function;

a media player;

a memory; and

a wireless communicator; and

a video device configured for wireless communication with the mobile computing device and configured for operative control by the mobile computing device, the video device including:

a program receiver;

a memory;

a wireless communicator;

a program recorder; and

a media player.

19. (Original) The appliance control system of claim 17 wherein the mobile computing device further comprises:

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an embedded web server configured for producing a web page representing the mobile computing device including at least one of an user preference list and an user preference database, and the web page optionally representing a transitivity of preferences across appliances.

20. (Currently Amended) A computing system comprising:

a computing workstation including:

a wireless communicator;

a storage media selector configured for selecting a memory destination to store and access data files that is at least one of unrestricted access and external only access; and

a mobile computing device including:

a wireless communicator; and

a memory configured for storing data files and including:

a virtual disc drive monitor configured to enable for using the mobile computing device substantially the same as an internal hard drive of the storage media selector of the computing workstation to access the memory of the mobile computing device as the memory destination of the computing workstation via the respective wireless communicators of the mobile computing device and the computing workstation.

21. (Currently Amended) A mobile computing device including:

a wireless communicator; and

a memory configured for storing data files;

a virtual disc drive monitor configured to enable a for using the mobile computing device substantially the same as an internal hard drive of the computing workstation to store and access the data files in the memory of the mobile computing device via the wireless communicator.

22. (Canceled)

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23.　　(Currently Amended)　A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of controlling an appliance, the method comprising:

establishing a wireless communication link between the appliance and a mobile computing device; and

controlling the appliance via~~with~~ the mobile computing device including:

supplying a first content from the mobile computing device to ~~at least one of~~ ~~selectively determining an available content for~~ the appliance;

selecting for performance by the appliance at least one content from a plurality of content available ~~the content used by~~ via the appliance, the plurality of content including the first content; and

applying ~~an~~ a user preference to the appliance.

24.　　(Original)　The medium of claim 23 wherein in the method, determining the available content comprises:

supplying to the appliance a copy of at least one of a movie, a TV program, an audio song, an audio program, and an audio file.

25.　　(Original)　A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of setting and applying user preferences for controlling an appliance with a mobile computing device, the method comprising:

grouping the appliances, to carry substantially the same user preferences, by at least one of an appliance location, an appliance type and custom criteria;

automatically performing select tasks with the appliances with at least one of the following user-determined functions: volume level, lighting level, file interactions and file transfers, appliance auto-activation, and default media selections including default program and default station lists; and

entering the user preferences for storage in the mobile computing device from at least one of computer workstation and another appliance via a web page of an embedded web server of the mobile computing device.

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26.   (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of selecting content for an appliance, the method comprising:

providing a mobile computing device with at least one of an audio monitor including audio-based content selections, a video monitor including video-based content selections, a data monitor including data-based content selections, a communication monitor including telecommunication selections, and an internet monitor including internet selections; and

selecting content from at least one of the audio monitor, the video monitor, the data monitor, the communication monitor, and the internet monitor,
wherein the method further comprises:

providing the audio monitor to include at least one of an audio station selection list, an audio song selection list, an audio program selection list, and an audio file selection list;

providing the video monitor to include at least one of a television network station selection list, a television program selection list, a program recorder with a play selection list and a program list;

providing the data monitor to include at least one of a document selection list, an editor activator, a virtual disc drive selector, and a document scanner receiver selector;

providing the communications monitor to include at least one of a phone book selection, a call list selection, an address book selection, a land/cell switcher selection, a fax selection; and

providing the internet monitor to include at least one of a browser favorites selection list and a cookies selection list.

27.   (Canceled)